

Welcome to the English Department

Department Location & Phone

Main Office: Tillinghast 340

Phone: 508-531-1258

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY



General Information

English is one of the largest majors at Bridgewater and one of the most vibrant departments. With twenty-five full-time and many more part-time faculty, we offer a rich array of courses and programs designed to give our students broad introductions to the craft of writing and the study of literature, along with many opportunities for in-depth study. English is a diverse and dynamic field, and our faculty bring their expertise and enthusiasm to everything from Beowulf to the Beat poets; from creative non-fiction to the teaching of writing; and from contemporary film to literature from around the world.

Programs and Concentrations

There are three categories of English major:

- **Regular English major** (this also includes students double majoring in elementary, early childhood, or special education);
- English major with a **writing concentration**;
- English major with an **English education concentration** (for students who want to teach middle or high school English).



Departmental Honors

You can begin Honors in English as a Junior. To graduate with Departmental Honors you must:

- Maintain a 3.3 GPA in English and a 3.0 overall;
- Complete 9 Honors credits, normally through 2 Honors contracts attached to 300 or 400 level English courses and a one semester Honors thesis;
- Or complete 1 Honors contract and a two-semester Honors thesis; Adrian Tinsley Program (ATP) Summer Research Grants can also count for Honors credit.

Co-Curricular Opportunities

English Society – a student organization that sponsors activities and trips; it also organizes the Undergraduate Literature Symposium.

Sigma Tau Delta – a national honor society for English students who meet GPA and other criteria; it hosts a national conference for undergraduates.

Undergraduate Literature Symposium – a research conference for English majors at BSU, Stonehill College, and UMass Boston, organized by undergraduates.

Internships – There are many opportunities to earn academic credit in an English-related internship.

Bridgewater at Oxford – A summer opportunity to study English literature and culture at Wadham College, Oxford.

Study Abroad – There are many options offered on an occasional basis, including Hawaii, Ireland and Cambodia.

How does advising work in the department?

You'll be assigned an advisor from among the full-time faculty. Your advisor is available to meet with you any time during the semester, but most students meet with their advisors in the two weeks before registration for the following semester. These meetings usually take about fifteen minutes and cover everything from questions about degree audits to your plans for a career. Once you've discussed your degree audit and course plans, your advisor will clear you to register.

Before your advising meeting:

- Look over your DegreeWorks audit to see what courses you need (you can consult the English advising checklists);
- Make a tentative schedule (via Infobear);
- Schedule a meeting (most advisors post sign-up sheets; some use online calendars).

Recommended English Courses for New Transfer Students

Foundation Courses – take these first!

ENGL 203: Writing about Literature

ENGL 223: Survey of British Literature to 1800

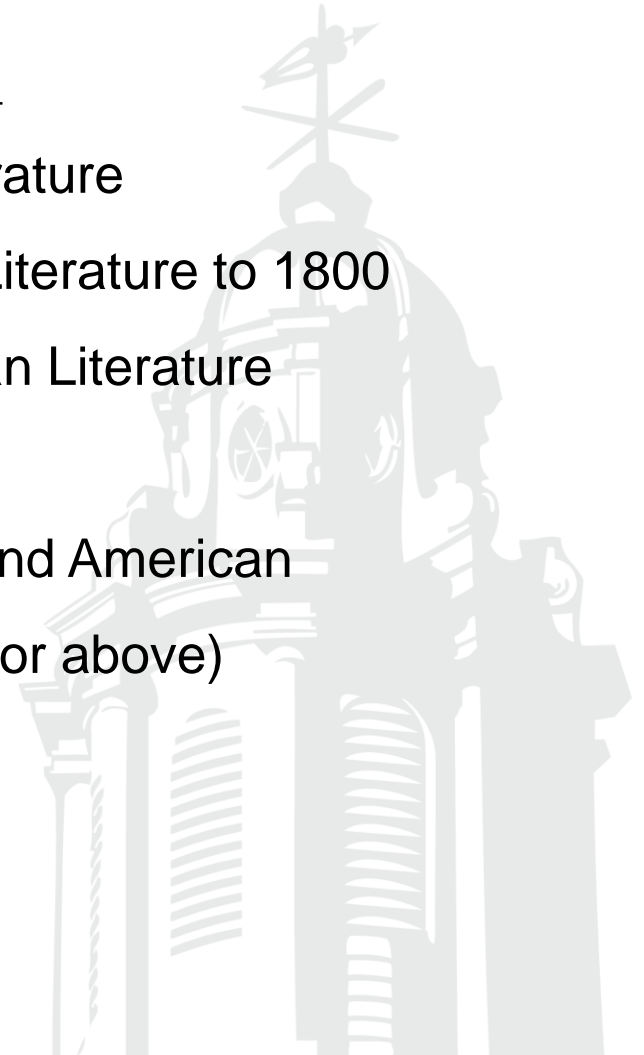
ENGL 234: Survey of American Literature

300 level area requirements

Early British, Modern British and American

Electives (5 total; 3 must be 300 level or above)

Senior Seminar – take this last !



Getting Started as a Transfer Student

- Take a foundation course (EN 203, 223 or 234) if possible;
- Check if any of your English courses will transfer for credit in the major;
- Decide if you want to pursue a writing or English education concentration;
- Balance your English and non-English courses to avoid taking too many literature classes in one semester;
- Try to meet with your advisor before registration advising;
- Consider doing an internship or studying abroad.